(d) whether Government propose to engage some other agency to investigate into this matter so as to verify the facts regarding despatch; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) State Bank of Indore has reported that the transfer orders of one of its employees, then posted at its Chandni Chowk Branch, were issued on 3-6-85 but the same could not be delivered to him as he had left office without permission before stipulated working hours. Consequently, the next day, i.e., on 4-6-85, at 11.00 a.m. the order was mailed by registered post to his house address. According to the bank, the transfer orders in the case of the official had been passed and served before the orders for maintenance of status quo, by the Assistant Labour Commissioner were received.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Racket in Rotary Club

2605. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atention has been drawn to the newsitem "Racket in Rotary Club exposed" appeared in Hindustan Times dated the 13th January, 1994;

(b) if so, whether any probe has been ordered and

(c) if so, what is the outcome;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Home Affairs, who are concerned with the subject, have informed that the relevant information is being obtained from the field agencies and the State Government.

Tax exemption to Indian pensioners from World Bank and I.M.F.

2606. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pensionary benefits accruing to Indian citizens retiring from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and such other international agencies are exempt from payment of income tax and wealth tax;

(b) if so, whether this arrangement is violative of Articles 14 of the Constitution; and

(c) the list of persons currently in the employment of the Government of India who enjoy such pensionary benefits from the World Bank and IMF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Pensionary benefits received by employees of United Nations Organisations including the World Bank, IMF and those covered under the provisions of UN (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947 are exempt from Income Tax as per the decision of the Karnataka High Court in the case of CIT. vs K. Ramaiah. As regards Wealth Tax, the right to receive pension is not a taxable asset under the Wealth Tax Act. The Wealth Tax Act does not have any special provision for exemption of investment out of pension income for Indian citizens retiring from World Bank and IMF etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.